

200311912-1

10/611,393

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (previously presented) An ink over-spray containment apparatus, comprising:
a first member having a first fluidic transport coefficient and a first ink affinity;
a second member coupled to said first member, said second member having a second fluidic transport coefficient lesser than said first fluidic transport coefficient and a second ink affinity greater than said first ink affinity;
wherein said first member comprises porous plastic.
2. (cancelled)
3. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second member comprises needle felt.
4. (previously presented) An ink over-spray containment apparatus, comprising:
a first member having a first fluidic transport coefficient and a first ink affinity;
a second member coupled to said first member, said second member having a second fluidic transport coefficient lesser than said first fluidic transport coefficient and a second ink affinity greater than said first ink affinity; and
a third member coupled to said second member, said third member having a third fluidic transport coefficient lesser than said second fluidic transport coefficient and a third ink affinity lesser than said second ink affinity.

200311912-1

10/611,393

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said third member comprises a compressible material.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said compressible material comprises compressible foam.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said third member is compressibly coupled to said second member.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said first, second, and third members are supportingly disposed within a platen.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said platen sealingly supports said first, second, and third members.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said platen comprises print medium support ribs.

11. (previously presented) An ink over-spray containment apparatus, comprising:
a first member having a first fluidic transport coefficient and a first ink affinity;
a second member coupled to said first member having a second fluidic transport coefficient less than said first fluidic transport coefficient and a second ink affinity greater than said first ink affinity; and

200311912-1

10/611,393

a third member coupled to said second member, said third member having a third fluidic transport coefficient lesser than said second fluidic transport coefficient and a third ink affinity less than said second ink affinity.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said first member comprises porous plastic.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said second member comprises needle felt.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said third member comprises a compressible material.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said compressible material comprises compressible foam.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said third member is compressibly coupled to said second member.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said first, second, and third members are supportingly disposed within a platen.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said platen comprises a liquid tight vessel and sealingly supports said first, second, and third members.

200311912-1

10/611,393

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said platen comprises print medium support ribs.

20. (previously presented) A printing device, comprising:
means for printing; and
a print medium support, said print medium support including an ink over-spray containment apparatus having;

a first member having a first fluidic transport coefficient and a first ink affinity;
a second member coupled to said first member having a second fluidic transport coefficient less than said first fluidic transport coefficient and a second ink affinity greater than said first ink affinity; and

a third member coupled to said second member, said third member having a third fluidic transport coefficient lesser than said second fluidic transport coefficient and a third ink affinity less than said second ink affinity.

21. (original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said first member comprises porous plastic.

22. (original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said second member comprises needle felt.

23. (original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said third member comprises a compressible material.

200311912-1

10/611,393

24. (original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said compressible material comprises compressible foam.

25. (original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said third member is compressibly coupled to said second member.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said first, second, and third members are supportingly disposed within a platen.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said platen comprises a liquid tight vessel and sealingly supports said first, second, and third members.

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said platen comprises print medium support ribs.

29. (currently amended) A method of containing fluid over-spray, comprising:
providing a platen to support print media moving through a printing device;
providing a first member having a first ink affinity, a first fluidic transport coefficient and a sprayed surface;

providing a second member having an ink affinity greater than said first ink affinity and a fluidic transport coefficient lesser than said first fluidic transport;

transporting an ink from said sprayed surface to said second member; and

200311912-1

10/611,393

disposing said first and second members within [[a]] said platen to contain a seepage of said ink from said first and second members.

30. (original) The method of claim 29, further comprising containing said ink within said second member.

31. (original) The method of claim 30, further comprising preventing said ink from migrating back to said first member.

32. (previously presented) A method of containing fluid over-spray, comprising: providing a first member having a first ink affinity, a first fluidic transport coefficient and a sprayed surface;

providing a second member having an ink affinity greater than said first ink affinity and a fluidic transport coefficient lesser than said first fluidic transport;

transporting an ink from said sprayed surface to said second member; and providing a third member adjacent to said second member, said third member having a lower fluid affinity and lower fluidic transport coefficient than said second member.

33. (original) The method of claim 32, further comprising transporting said ink from said third member to said second member.

34. (original) The method of claim 32, further comprising increasing a contact surface area between said first and second members.

200311912-1

10/611,393

35. (original) The method of claim 32, and further comprising disposing said first, second, and third members within a platen to contain a seepage of said ink from said first, second, and third members.

36. (currently amended) A method of forming an ink over-spray containment apparatus, comprising:

providing a first member having a first ink affinity and a first fluidic transport coefficient;

providing a second member having a second ink affinity higher than said first ink affinity and a fluidic transport coefficient lower than said first fluidic transport coefficient; and

providing a platen that supports print media moving through a printing device, contains said first and second members and contains any ink that may escape from either the first or second member.

37. (previously presented) A method of forming an ink over-spray containment apparatus, comprising:

providing a first member having a first ink affinity and a first fluidic transport coefficient;

providing a second member having a second ink affinity higher than said first ink affinity and a fluidic transport coefficient lower than said first fluidic transport coefficient; and

providing a third member in contact with said second member, said third member having a lower fluid affinity and lower fluidic transport coefficient than said second member.

200311912-1

10/611,393

38. (original) The method of claim 37, further comprising providing a platen and coupling said first, second, and third members to said platen.

39. (original) The method of claim 37, wherein said platen comprises a liquid-tight vessel.

40. (original) The method of claim 38, wherein said platen comprises print medium support ribs.

41. (currently amended) An ink over-spray containment system, comprising:
ink transport means for transporting ink away from a sprayed surface having an ink affinity and a fluidic transport coefficient;

ink containment means for containing said ink, said ink containment means having greater ink affinity and lesser fluidic transport characteristics than said ink transport means;
and

a compressed member coupled to said ink transport means or said ink containment means compression means for actively applying a force to said ink transport means and said ink containment means to increase a contact surface area between said ink transport means and said ink containment means.

42. (cancelled)

200311912-1

10/611,393

43. (currently amended) The system of claim 41, further comprising means for sealingly supporting said ink transport means, said ink containment means, and said contact surface area increasing means compression means.

44. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said a platen containing said first and second members is further configured to channel ink from flank portions of said first member to said second member.